

LIFESTYLES

HAWAII MARINE B SECTION

SEPTEMBER 10, 2004

Standby ...

Targets!

K-Bay range gears up to host recreational firing program for military members and guests

**Story and Photos By
Sgt. Jereme L. Edwards**
Combat Correspondent

The Marines aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay Range Training Facility will host a recreational firing program to promote marksmanship proficiency and firearm safety Friday afternoons when not in conflict with unit training beginning Sep. 17.

This event is open to all military personnel and their guests aboard MCBH, as well as local, state and federal law enforcement personnel.

The range will open for authorized personnel and their guests from noon to 3 p.m. on Fridays of scheduled marksmanship training weeks. The type of firing will alternate weekly between rifle, pistol and shotgun firing.

"On the first Friday we will open range six to all pistol and shotgun calibers," said Chief Warrant Officer Carroll Duncan, the Range Training Facility officer in charge. "There will be single lane firing at stationary targets from the 7, 15 and 25 yard lines. On the second Friday all standard caliber, center fire rifles will be fired on range one, with single lane firing at stationary targets from 200 and 300 yard lines."

"The Range Training Facility personnel aboard Kaneohe Bay will provide the required supervisory personnel, range location, safety vehicle and used targets to support the activity," said Duncan.

However, before firing, shooters and guests must meet several requirements.

"Shooters can be military members whether active, reserve, or retired, or they can be local, state or federal law enforcement personnel," said Duncan.

Shooters must also understand and sign a Hold Harmless Agreement form and also understand and comply with all recreational firing regulations. A copy of their Hawaii and MCB Hawaii firearms registration paperwork — for each firearm to be used — must be provided.

Each shooter must check in and out of the Range Control building upon entering and exiting the Range Training Facility. A Range Control clerk will inspect firearms and paperwork when checking in.

"Guests must comply with all requirements as regular shooters except they must be at least 14 years of age. Shooting guests between the ages of 14 and 18 must be supervised by their legal guardian," said Duncan.

"There will be no more than two firing guests per military member. Recreation fire can also be used as a time to help struggling shoot-

ers better their skills," he continued.

"Active duty Marines and Sailors stationed aboard MCBH are authorized to fire their T/O [Theater of Operations] weapons for practice during recreational fire. Limited quantities of 5.56 and 9 mm ammunition will be kept on hand for individuals to use for practice," said Duncan. "No ammunition other than government issue is authorized to be fired with issue weapons."

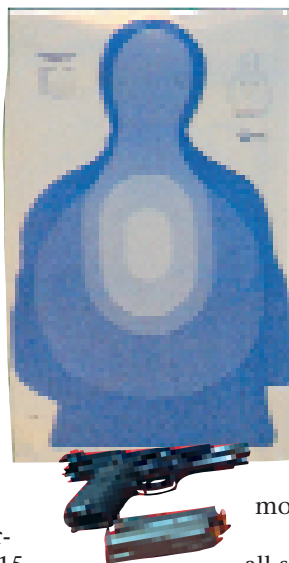
According to Duncan, the following are requirements for individuals desiring to fire their T/O weapon during recreational fire. The individual must get a signed letter from their commanding officer authorizing the Marine or Sailor to utilize his or her weapon during a specific rec-fire event, and a limited technical inspection form, current within 30 days, must be completed by the individual's armorer.

As with any training or recreational activity undertaken in the military service, safety is paramount. Recreational fire is no different.

"Each participant must comply with all safety regulations written and given verbally by the officer in charge or the range safety officer," said Duncan. "Firearms and ammunition are subject to inspection by the RSO to determine its safe usage aboard the range. The OIC reserves the right to intervene and if necessary, terminate an individual's participation or the entire activity when safe operation of the range is in jeopardy."

"By far, the most important thing to remember is training takes precedence over all. All persons wanting to participate in rec-fire should call the range control office no later than the close of business the Wednesday prior to the rec-fire they plan to attend," said Duncan.

For more information on the recreational fire program, or about the range, call the Range Control Office at 257-3180.

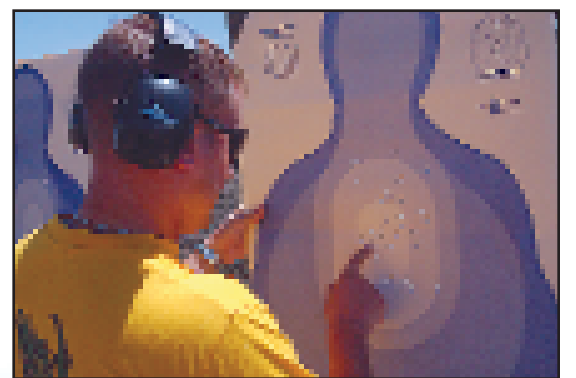


Sailors stationed aboard MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, fired rounds down range with a 9 mm pistol as part of their qualifying fire at the range training facility here, Sept. 2.



Standing with fellow Sailors, Navy Lt. Matt Howard, a pilot with Patrol Squadron 4, fires at his target down range during qualifying fire on the pistol at the range training facility aboard Kaneohe Bay.

Below — The range training facility here will be open on scheduled Fridays for marksmanship training to authorized personnel and their guests.



Navy Lt. Matt Howard, a pilot with Patrol Squadron 4, counts the impact holes on his target after qualifying fire on the pistol.



The art of being robbed

In a perfect world, lessons would not be so hard to learn

Cpl. Megan L. Stiner and Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Combat Correspondents

In a perfect world, Peter, Paul and Mary would be the biggest band influence in the world, Ovaltine would be more popular than beer, The Wonder Years would never have gone off the air, and you could sleep 10 feet away from your locked car, fully confident no one would steal from it.

On the weekend of Aug. 28 – 29, the two of us unfortunately found out that the world we live in isn’t always the bag of circus peanuts we had hoped. Let us explain.

Our Saturday began with the intention of providing the *Hawaii*

Marine newspaper with a lifestyle-type story involving a homeless veteran and the past trials and tribulations of his life. Hey, we thought it would be a worthwhile article Marines and Sailors would enjoy reading.

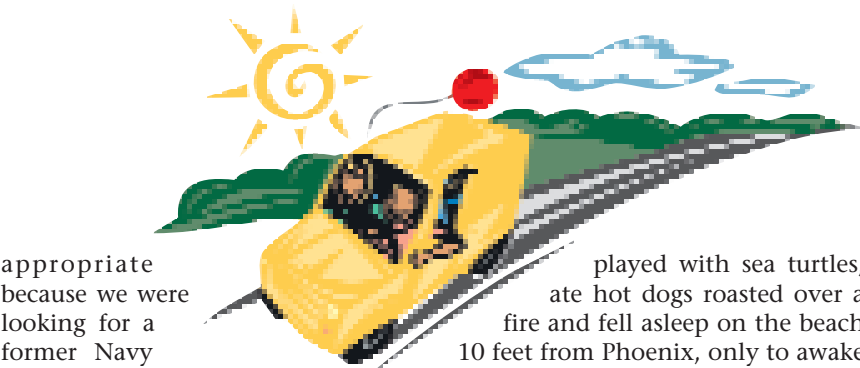
So we ventured out, no, not in the Ice Cream van, but rather in an untrustworthy ’98 Pontiac GrandAm, by the name of Phoenix Ivory. Background check; the van was sold to our good friend Cpl. Jared Plotts, another loyal combat correspondent at Camp Smith. He takes good care of it and Duncan, the van, is very pleased with his new owner.

Anyway, there was a particular man that seemed to shine through the rest of the homeless population

of Waikiki. His name — Robert Pittman. He has the eyes of Tom Hanks in the movie “Castaway.” You remember, the one where he befriends a volleyball.

We noticed the man as he stood with his war veteran sign on the side street, saving money for a meal. We had passed by him several times before, always remembering his face and wondering how he came to this point in his life, and what sort of life he had lived in the past.

We sought to tell his story and so we found him. After asking this man about his past, he responded he had been in the National Guard in 1973 and was hit by a drunk driver, after having all his belongings stolen. We decided a full story would not be



appropriate because we were looking for a former Navy or Marine Corps veteran, but we took a picture nonetheless. Before we left we bought him barbecue chicken, water and granola bars. Before we departed, we handed him a five-dollar bill. In return, we received a hug each, a farewell in the form of “God Bless” and good karma, or so we thought.

From there, we received a phone call from a good friend who was camping at North Shore. He asked us if we wanted to go along and play with sea turtles, eat hot dogs and sleep on the beach. Who could refuse such a wonderful invitation?

So we made the glorious trip to Oahu’s beautiful North Shore, ready for a fine evening of fun. Yes, we

played with sea turtles, ate hot dogs roasted over a fire and fell asleep on the beach 10 feet from Phoenix, only to awake the next morning to a horrible realization. All the compartments in the car had been opened and the contents thrown about. Any item of value had been stripped from the vehicle. We had been robbed.

Our first thought was to call the police and file a report. Uh, oh, yeah, we had no cell phones. Second thought, get back to base and tell our sergeant and then file a police report.

The ride back was one filled with confusion, anger, nervousness and anticipation. After all, why would someone sink to that level and steal all our stuff? What kind of people would do such a thing? What was

See **ROBBED, B-7**

MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES

WWW.MCCSHAWAII.COM

Possibilities in Paradise

Kahuna’s Bar & Grill
254-7660/7661

Live Rock, Tonight
— Get a good dose of classic rock with local cover band SLUG. The Club opens at 6 p.m. and the party goes until 2 a.m. Kahuna’s is open to all E-5 and below, DoD equivalent civilians and all sponsored guests.

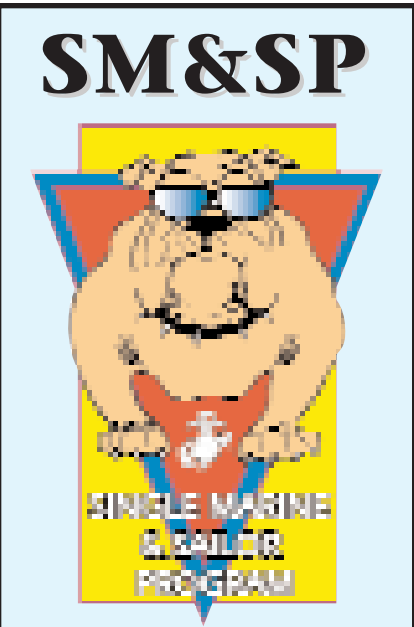
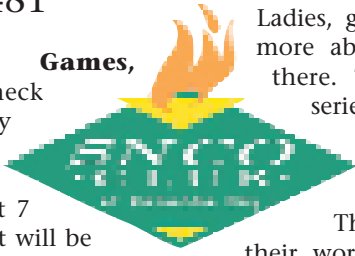
Live NFL Games, Sunday — Check out all the Sunday NFL games live on DIRECTV. The club opens at 7 a.m. and breakfast will be available for purchase.



Championship Wrestling, Sept. 18 — It’s fight night in Kahuna’s Ballroom with Hawaii Championship Wrestling from 7 – 9 p.m. Admission for active duty military is \$8, all others are \$10.

Staff NCO Club
254-5481

Live NFL Games, Sunday — Check out all the Sunday NFL games live on DIRECTV. The club opens at 7 a.m. and breakfast will be available for purchase.



All events are open to unaccompanied E-5 and below who are active duty Marines or Sailors. The SM&SP Office is located in building 1629, inside the Kahuna’s Recreation Center. Get more details on activities at www.MCCS-Hawaii.com under the “Semper Fitness” icon, or call 254-7593.

Upcoming Events
Barracks Bashes: Ask your barracks SM&SP representative about the upcoming Barracks Bashes and let your voice be heard. The events include free food and loads of fun, so call SM&SP for more information.

Volunteers Needed
Youth Sports Coaches needed: Coaches are needed for youth softball, baseball, basketball, soccer, in-line hockey, cheer-leading, and football. Contact the Youth Activities Sports Coordinator at 254-7610/7611.

NCO Appreciation Night, Wednesday — Bring your young devil dogs to the Rocker Room for refreshments and camaraderie. NCO Appreciation Night starts at 4:30 p.m.

Officers’ Club
254-7650/7649

The Officers’ Club Open House, Thursday — Anyone can join a club — except this one. Are you new to Marine Corps Base Hawaii? Or maybe you haven’t seen what the club is all about. Get in the know and join your fellow Officers from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. to learn about the benefits of being a member. Check it out on the poolside lanai. There will be plenty of DJ music, free pupus, and membership drawings.



All Hands

Football 101, Sept. 12, 13 — Ladies, get in the game and learn more about what’s going on out there. The first of a three-part series, the football 101 workshops will be hosted at The Staff NCO Club and The Officers’ Club. The Officers’ Club will have their workshop on Sept. 12. The Officers’ Club workshop will cost \$20 and includes a full lunch served from noon to 1 p.m., prizes and a play-book.

The Rocker Room will host the workshop on Sept. 13 at 4:30 p.m. The workshop will cost \$10 and includes light pupus, prizes, a play-book and completion identification card that can be used at the club for discounts.

Aloha Fair, Tuesday — Marine Corps Community Services is hosting the Fall Community Aloha Fair open to all active duty and their family members from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Kahuna’s Ballroom.

Approximately 40 businesses from MCB Hawaii and the Windward community will be available to provide information and answer questions about the services they offer. Attendees will enjoy free pupus and exciting prize giveaways.

Join us and meet your new friends and neighbors and local businesses that will help make your transition easier.

Job Fair, Wednesday — Looking for a job? The Joint Employment Management System will hold its 17th annual job fair at the Banyan’s Club on Pearl Harbor from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Over 100 local businesses, mainland companies, and federal/state/county government agencies will be recruiting to fill their job vacancies.

The job fair is open to military family members, active duty personnel, military retirees and reservists, and DoD, Coast Guard employees with base access. No children will be admitted. Also, dress accordingly, as this is a great opportunity to talk to recruiters, drop off résumés, pick up applications and research the job market.

For more information, visit the JEMS Web site at www.JEMSHawaii.com and click on Job Fair/Events.

Texas Hold’em, Sept. 18 — First, there was the Staff NCO tournament, then The Officers’ Club tournament, Kahuna’s tournament and finally a civilian tournament. Now, check out the finals where the top three players of each aforementioned tournament will compete for title of K-Bay Texas Hold’em Champion. Check it out at 6 p.m. in the Fairway’s Ballroom.

“Godfather” Marathon, Sept. 25 — The Recreation Center is holding an all-nighter featuring a “Godfather” movie marathon starting at 4 p.m. Bring your sleeping gear and wear your most decent pajamas. Prizes and a free Sicilian pizza party and breakfast are a few of the highlights of the evening.

Joint Spouses’ Conference, Oct. 15, 16 — The 10th annual Joint Spouses’ Conference will be held at Hickam Air Force Base Officers’ Club. This is a forum for military spouses from the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard to come together as one family to learn and share experiences from military life.

The conference is anchored with popular workshops from its own publication “Armed for Entertainment ‘At East’ A Creative Guide.”

Registration forms may be picked up at base exchanges, commissaries, support centers, thrift shops, and chapels. The cost is \$25 for both days or \$15 for either Friday or Saturday. All forms must be post-marked by Sept. 30.

Children are not permitted to attend. Child care is not available and must be prearranged.

Ongoing

ASYMCA Playmornings — Kids and parents are all invited to come have fun at the Armed Services YMCA “Playmornings.” Spend quality time with your children and get to know other families aboard base. Playmornings is a facilitated par-

ent-child program that encourages bonding within and amongst families. Enjoy crafts, games, songs and fun at wonderful locations across the base. The program runs Monday through Friday, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the following locations: Mondays at Hale Koa Beach, Tuesdays at the Youth Activities building 5082, Wednesdays and Fridays at the Super Playground and Thursdays at Connor Loop Playground.

In case of inclement weather, head to the Armed Services YMCA in building 1638. Call 254-4719 for more information or to find out what other enjoyable events the ASYMCA has planned.

Swing Lessons — Kahuna’s Ballroom is teaching you how to dance. Every Monday, Swing dance lessons will be taught from 7 to 9 p.m. The cost is \$2. So grab a partner and get ready to twist, twirl, and spin the night away.

For more information, call 254-7660.

Salsa Lessons — Impress her with your fancy foot and hip action. Take a few salsa lessons at Kahuna’s Ballroom every Tuesday from 7 to 9 p.m. and you too will be set to hit the town. Lessons are \$2.

For more information, call 254-7660.

Friday Night Barbecue — Every Friday, let someone else do the grilling. Head to the Staff NCO Club for your favorite grilled New York Strip, pork chops, chicken or fish and a full buffet of all the fixings including grilled corn, assorted grilled vegetables, mixed green salad and watermelon.

Served from 5 to 9 p.m. To make reservations, call 254-5481.

Hourly Child Care — Join us for fun summer activities. The Hourly CDC provides childcare by reservation for children 6 weeks – 5 years. Call 257-8354 for more information about how to register your child.

Cage The Rage — Learn to understand and control your anger with ongoing classes Thursdays, 1 – 3:30 p.m. There are eight weekly sessions in each series. Start anytime. To schedule a brief orientation appointment call 257-7780/7781.

Mongolian Barbecue — Don’t feel like cooking dinner? Every Wednesday and Friday night, head out to The Officers’ Club for Mongolian Barbecue and leave the work to the professionals.

Buffet style, select your favorite veggies and meat including chicken, shrimp, pork and beef; pile your bowl high, and kick it up a notch with a sauce of your choice. Then, watch the grill masters flip, sauté and grill your dinner to perfection. Mongolian Barbecue is served every

Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. Call 254-7649.

Lava Java — Located next to the Base Theater, Lava Java is proudly brewing Starbucks. A variety of your favorite espresso drinks, coffee and pastries are served Mondays through Fridays, 6 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Mega Video — Check out these weekly rental specials!

Monday — Rent one new release, get one category movie free.

Tuesday — Rent a video game at regular price and rent a second one for \$2.50.

Wednesday — Rent three new releases (VHS or DVD), receive an extra day rental.

Thursday — Rent one DVD at the regular price, rent the second one for \$1.75 (includes new releases).

Friday — Rent family and children’s movies for 75-cents (no new releases).

Saturday — Rent any basic stock movie (no new releases) for regular price and rent the second stock movie for \$1.25.

Sunday — Rent any Sunday Special movie for \$1.00. (Each week is a different section. See store calendar for selected section.)

Tradewind Travel — If travel is in your future, look to Tradewind Travel to book your next trip. Located in Mokapu Mall, Tradewind Travel can arrange mainland flights, inter-island packages, Norwegian Cruises and most recently, a five-night Sydney, Australia package.

Tradewind Travel is open Monday – Friday 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. For more information, call 254-7413.

Looking for a Job? — Marine Corps Community Services employs more than 850 employees in retail, food and hospitality, fitness, child and youth activities, water safety, logistics and administration.

Stop by the MCCS Personnel office located in building 219. Get a job or career that suits your skills, schedule and style. Call 254-7619 or visit www.mccshawaii.com/jobs_listings.html and find the position that’s perfect for you.

Family Child Care Helps Children Learn and Grow — Family Child Care is a child care service provider in a home-setting that’s operated by MCCS Personal Services with certified providers trained in child development, nutrition, guidance and more. Family Child Care provides a flexible schedule including evenings, weekends, and overnight care.

To find a Family Child Care Provider, call the Children, Youth and Teen Programs Officer at 257-7430. To become a Family Child Care Provider at MCB Hawaii, call the FCC Office at 257-7030.

MOVIE TIME

Prices: Adults (12 and older) are \$3, children 6 to 11, \$1.50 and children 5 and younger, free. Matinee prices are \$2 for adults, \$1 for children. Parents must purchase tickets for R-rated movies in person at the box office for children 16-years-old and younger. For E-5 and below, admission is free to the second show on Friday and Saturday evenings only. Sunday evenings, the price is \$1 for all patrons. Show your ID card at the box office. Call 254-7642 for recorded information.

Sneak Preview Policy: One hour and 45 minutes prior to the movie, tickets will be issued to first priority patrons waiting in line, then second and third priority patrons.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| The Bourne Supremacy (PG-13) | Today at 7:15 p.m. |
| Catwoman (PG-13) | Today at 9:45 p.m. |
| Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle (R) | Saturday at 7:15 p.m. |
| I, Robot (PG-13) | Saturday at 9:45 p.m. |
| Thunderbirds (PG) | Sunday at 2:00 p.m. |
| Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle (R) | Sunday at 6:30 p.m. |
| The Bourne Supremacy (PG-13) | Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. |
| The Manchurian Candidate (R) | Friday at 7:15 p.m. |
| Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle (R) | Friday at 9:45 p.m. |

Comedy acts light up Kaneohe Bay

Comedians induce much laughter and applause at club’s Comedy Night

Story and Photos By
Cpl. Jessica M. Mills
Sports Editor

Laughter and applause filled the air Saturday evening during the Staff Noncommissioned Officers’ Club’s Comedy Night, which was headlined by none other than MCB Hawaii Safety Director Bo Irvine.

“The last time I performed at the Staff NCO Club was more than 12 years ago,” said Irvine, who also stars on OC-16 every Tuesday evening. “The sergeant major of the base and the Staff NCO Club manager asked me to set this up, and I was more than happy to come back here, but this was brought to us by Sharky’s Comedy Club — not me.”

The show also boasted comedic talent from Kevin Jordan, who tours with the Uniformed Services Organization and Comics On Duty, and Petty Officer 2nd Class Merellis “Mo” Dixon, who is featured on local cable station OC-16.

Jordan may be civilian, but he has had his fair share of sleeping in the dirt. He recently returned from his second tour to Iraq with Comics on Duty, an organization that visits military units all over the country and throughout the world, bringing comedy and entertainment to our troops.

Jordan, who calls himself the black Bob Hope, has been to Iraq, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Kerkystan, and many other countries in the surrounding Gulf, as part of his tour with Comics on Duty.

“At the moment, I am headlining over at Sharky’s Comedy Club, but when they asked me to do this, I



Dorothea Kyles, a relocation program assistant for Marine and Family Services, was laughing the entire time during Comedy Night.

“I love making people laugh,” said Dixon. “And lately, I have been getting a lot of calls, and I have been to all of the military Staff NCO Clubs. But, I’ll do a funeral if I can make people laugh. That is all I care about.”

During the show, the audience seemed to enjoy all three comics’ sense of humor. While “Mo” got a huge laugh and long applause for removing his shirt and boasting his girth in a shrunken undershirt. Jordan had the most reaction and interaction from the crowd, due to his satirical, if not raucous, remarks regarding the military.

Irvine, who has opened up for famous comics such as George Carlin and Howie Mandel, was the last to perform that night. Irvine showed his skill and experience by working the crowd and leaving

immediately said yes — anything for the troops,” said Jordan.

“The organization I work with, Comics On Duty, goes anywhere they are,” he said. “We go to the bases or out to the field, it doesn’t matter. We will get right in the trenches with the troops, because every soldier, Marine and Sailor deserves to laugh.”

“Mo” Dixon has been in the Navy for 18 years, but he only found his niche in comedy five years ago.

“I love making people laugh,” said Dixon. “And lately, I have been getting a lot of calls, and I have been to all of the military Staff NCO Clubs. But, I’ll do a funeral if I can make people laugh. That is all I care about.”

During the show, the audience seemed to enjoy all three comics’ sense of humor. While “Mo” got a huge laugh and long applause for removing his shirt and boasting his girth in a shrunken undershirt. Jordan had the most reaction and interaction from the crowd, due to his satirical, if not raucous, remarks regarding the military.

Irvine, who has opened up for famous comics such as George Carlin and Howie Mandel, was the last to perform that night. Irvine showed his skill and experience by working the crowd and leaving

See COMEDY, B-8



Kevin Jordan, who tours with the Uniformed Services Organization and Comics On Duty, recently returned from his second tour to Iraq with Comics on Duty. Jordan was a big hit during Comedy Night at the Staff NCO Club here.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Merellis “Mo” Dixon, found his niche in comedy five years ago through a bet during an open mike night. Now, he says he wants to do nothing else but make people laugh, and plans to do just that once he retires.



Left — The audience’s reaction took the spotlight when Petty Officer 2nd Class Merellis “Mo” Dixon, a talented comedian in the Navy, began removing his shirt to show his “clubbing” clothes at Saturday’s Comedy Night.

Luau highlights end of summer



Noxious performs in front of an enthusiastic crowd Saturday evening at the End of Summer Luau held at Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park in Kapolei. The free event was sponsored by local radio station 104.3 XME as a “thank you” to its listeners.

Photos By Cpl. Megan L. Stiner

Free annual concert, hula and motocross shows held to thank XME radio listeners

Lance Cpl. Michelle M. Dickson
Media Chief

As Summer comes to a close, visitors of the Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park in Kapolei, celebrated their Labor Day weekend by heating things up with the sixth annual End of Summer Luau, Saturday evening.

The event, sponsored by radio station 104.3 XME, was held as a thank you to its listeners.

“Their [radio station] event is kept in conjunction with us and we are going to keep that tradition going,” said Sean Gano, special events and promotions chief. “We kick off the summer with a big Memorial Day weekend party, and always like to close up with this.”

Mr. Vegas, Noxious and Fewtur 3 hit the stage giving hundreds of fans plenty of time to dance and live up one of the final weekends of the season. The night was kicked off by a performance by hula halau Na Maka O Puuwai Aloha, who put on a performance to get things warmed up in the beginning of the evening.

“We had everybody perform on center stage and prior to the concerts, had contests and gave out prizes like TVs, DVD players and even a minivan,” said Gano. “We had a great turn out of people, both during the day in the park, and at night with the luau.”

Throughout the day, visitors of the water park enjoyed a variety of entertainment in addition to the plentiful amount of rides, food and games.

“There was a good coordination of events out here all day,” said Gano. “We even had a motocross show that went twice for people to see. We wanted to have entertainment for everyone who came out and that takes a lot of work.”

Guests who attended the water park during the day were more than welcome to stay for the concert in the evening, but if visitors weren’t at the park earlier, admittance to the show was still free.

“I went to the water park during the day and stuck around for the luau at night,” said Lance Cpl.

See LUAU, B-7

Members of Fewtur 3 crooned to the crowd at 104.3 XME’s free concert Saturday night. Concert-goers enjoyed live entertainment and a number of prize giveaways that even included a minivan.



An excited crowd eagerly waits for Mr. Vegas to take the stage and perform.

— ON THE MENU AT ANDERSON HALL —

Today

Lunch

Pepper Steak

Southern Fried Catfish

Rice Pilaf

Potatoes Au Gratin

Simmered Black-Eyed Peas

Sugar Cookies

Asst. Fruit Pies

Dinner

Beef Pot Pie

Roast Turkey

Paprika Buttered Potatoes

Steamed Rice

Sugar Cookies

Asst. Fruit Pies

Specialty Bar

(Lunch and Dinner)

Pasta Bar

Saturday

Brunch/Dinner

Baked Lasagna

Chicken Parmesan

Pizza Slices

Garlic Bread

Marble Cake w/Chocolate

Icing

Asst. Fruit Pies

Sunday

Brunch/Dinner

Barbecue Beef Cubes

Baked Turkey & Noodles

Steamed Rice

Ginger Molasses Cookies

Spice Cake w/Butter

Cream Frosting

Monday

Lunch

Meat Loaf

Pork Ham Roast

Steamed Rice

Mashed Potatoes

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Asst. Fruit Pies

Dinner

Beef Brogul

Baked Cajun Fish

Mashed Potatoes

Steamed Rice

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Asst. Fruit Pies

Specialty Bar

(Lunch and Dinner)

Pasta Bar

Tuesday

Lunch

Simmered Corned Beef

w/Mustard Sauce

Honey Glazed Cornish Hens

Parsley Buttered Potatoes

Egg Noodles

Peanut Butter Cake w/Peanut

Butter Frosting

Asst. Fruit Pies

Dinner

Turkey Pot Pie

Sweet & Sour Pork

Steamed Rice

Parsley Buttered Potatoes

Peanut Butter Cake w/Peanut

Butter Frosting

Asst. Fruit Pies

Specialty Bar

(Lunch and Dinner)

Taco Bar

Wednesday

Lunch

Pork Adobo

Beef Yakisoba

Steamed Rice

Pork Fried Rice

Oatmeal Cookies

Strawberry Shortcake

Asst. Fruit Pies

Dinner

Steak Smothered w/Onions

Southern Fried Catfish

Mashed Potatoes

Steamed Rice

Oatmeal Cookies

Strawberry Shortcake

Asst. Fruit Pies

Specialty Bar

(Lunch and Dinner)

Country Bar

Thursday

Lunch

Turkey À La King

Beef Porcupines

Mashed Potatoes

Boiled Egg Noodles

Marble Cake w/Chocolate

Cream Frosting

Pineapple Upside-Down

Cake

Asst. Fruit Pies

Dinner

Braised Liver w/Onions

El Rancho Stew

Honey Ginger Chicken

Steamed Rice

Boiled Egg Noodles

Marble Cake w/ Chocolate

Cream Frosting

Pineapple Upside-Down

Cake

Asst. Fruit Pies

Specialty Bar

(Lunch and Dinner)

Taco Bar





Cleaning up your credit

A good credit record can save headaches

Being aware of how your credit is affected is an important step toward financial security

Deb Trzcinski
LIFELines Services Network

One of the first things you notice upon entering the military is the eagerness of others to lend you money. Outside military bases worldwide, billboards line the streets: “E-1 AND UP — WE FINANCE!!!”

While credit is a good thing when used wisely, it turns ugly with abuse. Overextending yourself or neglecting payments leaves you with nothing more than a bad credit rating. This may be of no consequence to you now — but your future financial dreams are dependent on it. Understanding your credit rating can help secure your financial future.

Part 1: What’s a credit rating?

Lending institutions use a credit rating to determine whether you’re worthy of receiving more credit. You are rated based on your credit history, including how well you have paid your debts.

Scores are recorded on credit reports that are maintained by three credit bureaus: Equifax, Experian, and Trans Union. When you apply for a loan, an institution will access this report before lending you money or offering you more credit.

Credit reports contain the following information:

- Personal:* name, all addresses, Social Security number, birthday, employers, marital status, and name of spouse,
- Account information:* loans or credit from banks, retailers, credit card companies, or other lenders,
- Public records:* liens, monetary judgements, and bankruptcies,
- Inquiries:* requests by others for reports on you.

Obtaining a copy

If you’re considering the purchase of a home or vehicle, it would serve you well to check your credit report.

Your score can determine whether a lender will give you money and may affect what interest rate they’ll charge.

Request a low-cost copy of your report from one of the credit bureaus. Internet services offer special deals to access either your entire report or your score alone from one or all three bureaus. Free reports are included in some of these deals (be sure to pay attention to the fine print).

What’s the score?

When you receive your report, find the credit risk score. While lenders may consider other information, this score is often the determining factor in securing future loans. Scores range from 375 to 900 points. The importance of the score is based on the lending policies of a creditor. One company may be willing to lend you money with a score of 620 while another has a different standard. You are considered a good credit risk if you have a score of 650 or above.

Part 2: Poor credit ratings — cause and effect

Several things can affect your credit rating.

Late payments

Overextending yourself with credit almost always leads to a crippled score. In many cases, all it takes is a few payments that are 30 days late to cause irreparable damage.

Be sure to notify creditors of address changes when military orders take you to a new location. If you don’t plan carefully before a move, bills may be sent to the wrong address, resulting in late payments that pile up.

Spouse’s credit

If your spouse has a bad credit rating, so will you. Communication is key to knowing the status of a spouse’s spending habits and/or abil-



ity to responsibly use credit. Be sure to plan ahead and talk over payment schedules, particularly before a move or deployment.

The hidden truth

Amazingly, your credit rating can be negatively affected without your knowledge. Inquiries of your credit report by prospective lenders could result in a disapproved loan. Multiple inquiries over a short period of time give the impression that you are applying for lots of credit, thereby overextending yourself. Limit these inquiries. Your own inquiries do not count against you.

Unused credit is a good thing ... right? Wrong. Available credit means you have the capability to overextend yourself in the future. Consider closing unused credit accounts or having your limits lowered before applying for a large loan.

Mistakes on your report

Never underestimate the potential for errors on your credit report. Check carefully for misspelled words, incorrect numerals in your Social Security number, and inaccurate amounts due on existing accounts.

Occasionally, identity fraud comes

into play. Fraud happens when someone else uses your name to open accounts.

Correcting mistakes

You have the right to dispute inaccuracies of any kind. Write a letter to the reporting bureau and include the following information:

- Full name
- Complete mailing address
- Date of birth
- Social Security number
- Name and account number of the item you are disputing
- Reason for your disagreement
- Signature

How long will it last

Negative information remains on your report for seven years. Inquiries stay for two years, while public record information is present between seven and 10 years.

Part 3: Rebuild a good credit report — break the vicious cycle

Besides other troubles created by bad credit decisions, excessive problems with indebtedness can hurt your military career, resulting in possible administrative and/or disciplinary actions. It’s in your best interest to live within your means and maintain a good credit report.

However, there’s hope for those in a credit crunch. It may or may not be possible to repair your credit rating once damage is done, but rebuilding a good report is always a feasible goal.

Options for fixing your credit

In “The Fix Your Credit Workbook,” authors Todd Bierman and David Masten suggest that it’s possible to amend negative reports through letter-writing campaigns or

direct negotiations with creditors. The workbook encourages readers to “write letter after letter to the credit bureaus, asking them to remove the bad credit item” and that “credit bureau letters can be effective at repairing credit.”

According to Bierman and Masten, direct negotiations are the preferred method of deliberation. This method involves such things as approaching the creditor with an offer to settle your debts (backed by a workable payment plan) in exchange for an unrated account. Unrated means it is neither good, nor bad.

Payment priorities

In the midst of rebuilding, prioritize current bill payments based on which creditor can cause you further damage. Although a late payment on a credit card is bad for your credit score, if you must choose between that and your mortgage, the mortgage takes priority. The following is a suggested list of creditors based on their debt importance:

1. Mortgage
2. IRS
3. Auto lenders
4. Credit cards
5. Store cards

Assistance is available

Use caution in approaching credit counseling agencies or clinics claiming to have the ability to “fix” your report. Some have been found to be fraudulent and often charge large sums of money to do things you can easily do yourself for free. Other credit organizations offer help, ranging from setting up a reasonable payment schedule to interceding on your behalf with creditors.

For reliable instruction and counseling in responsible money management, contact your local Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society.

Lead

by

Example

Make a good first impression. Respect your fellow riders — no matter what they ride.



www.msf-usa.org • (800) 446-9227

WORD TO PASS

“Aloha” Chapter Mixer
National Naval Officers Association Hawaii “Aloha” Mixer will be held today at 6 p.m. at the Marine Corps Base Hawaii Officers’ Club. Bring a friend or come meet new friends and mentors today.

For more information, contact: Navy Lt. Cmdr. Carolynne Durant-Hall at 474-6798, Navy Cmdr. James Wyatt at 471-9727, Maj. Pat Johnson at 257-8841, or Capt. Dave Everly at 257-8387.

Religious Education Services
Protestant Sunday School and Catholic Education Classes will start Sunday. All classes will be held at the Base Chapel in the Religious Education Facility building 1090. For more information call 257-3552 ext. 2.

Twang Jam Welcomes the Military
A traditional and bluegrass music “mini-festival” combining concert performance, informal audience jam sessions, and workshops will be held Sept. 19 from 2 to 5 p.m. at Kapono’s, located at the Aloha Tower Marketplace. The event is free to all active duty military personnel with military ID. Each member may bring one guest free of charge. For all others, tickets are available for \$7 prior to the event and \$10 at the door. Children under the age of 12 will be admitted for free.

NMCRS Volunteers Needed
The Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society is looking for volunteers to fill receptionist and caseworker positions at the Kaneohe and Pearl Harbor offices. No experience is needed. The receptionist will greet and confirm client eligibility, process and screen appointments, answer telephones, schedule appointments and prepare paperwork. The caseworker will process client requests, verification, do budget analysis and review casework history, offer alternative solutions and give reference material. The caseworker will also determine whether or not a client’s request falls within policy and make a decision to assist clients with loan and/or grant. All volunteers will receive: — Reimbursement for all childcare costs while volunteering in the office and/or at volunteer functions, — Reimbursement of mileage to

and from office, childcare and functions, — Positive encouragement. Applications can be filled out at your local NMCRS office.

Aquarium Posts Remaining Summer Activities
Summer is here and the Waikiki Aquarium is celebrating with a wide range of activities and programs for youth and adults. Rediscover the Aquarium during the following events:

- *Friday:* From 7 to 9 p.m., discover if fish sleep, sea snails snooze or weedy sea dragons doze during the guided flashlight tour, “Aquarium After Dark.” Cost is \$7 adults, \$6 children.
 - *Ongoing:* See the fish with a beard, that’s right, the bearded armorhead *Evisτίας acutirostris* on display now. Curious? Come see this rarely seen animal, donated by the aquarium in Tokyo.
- The Waikiki Aquarium is the third oldest public aquarium in the United States, a part of the University of Hawaii, and open daily from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regular admission is \$7 tourists, \$5 residents and military, \$3.50 youth 3 – 17, and free to children 12 and under. Aquarium members enjoy additional discounts. Call 923-9741 or visit www.waquarium.org for more details.

HPU Offers ‘Reel War’ Course
A new course offered at Hawaii Pacific University this fall semester will challenge students to look at war with a critical eye through documentaries and feature films. During this time of global change, students may find the course to be an appropriate medium to understanding the basics of conflict. Dr. Phyllis Frus, associate professor of English, will be teaching “Reel War: Military Conflict on Screen” and offering students the chance to examine films in their cultural and historical contexts. The class will not only help students fulfill a course requirement but also help them gain an understanding of the politics of war, movements for avoiding and resisting conflicts, and our ever-changing global society. Further, the new course aims to examine changes in the way particular wars are represented at different times through documentaries and feature films, to develop students’ skills at visual analysis and viewing film critically, and to increase their

understanding of cinematic concepts, trends and conventions. Films to be screened include “The Patriot,” “The Last of the Mohicans,” “Glory,” “Red Badge of Courage,” “Platoon,” “Apocalypse Now” and “Saving Private Ryan.” Any interested HPU student can take this course, which fulfills the texts and culture requirement for English majors and counts as an elective for the film studies minor.

Army Seeks Applicants for Civilian Intern Program
Every couple years, outstanding graduates are selected from universities to participate in the Department of the Army’s Logistics Management Internship Program at Fort Lee, Va. In fiscal year 2005, Logistics recruiters will again use the Federal Career Intern Program as the vehicle to hire National Supply and Maintenance interns. The program is unique because it provides potential employees without Army working experience the opportunity to start a career as a civilian with the Department of the Army. The entry requirement is a GPA of 2.95 or higher out of a possible 4.0, or applicants with a master’s degree qualify without a specific GPA. The intern program is a two-year paid program that targets grades of GS-7 to GS-11, with an automatic advance to the pay grade of GS-9 after one year, and to pay grade GS-11 at the end of two years. Interns are hired into the U.S. government and report to the Army Logistics Management College at Fort Lee for six months.

Travel cost to the initial training site is the responsibility of the intern. However, a number of training assignments and travel opportunities occur after the initial phase of training, and the government pays these expenses. Due to the highly competitive and selective nature of the intern program, consideration is limited to individuals possessing strong academic credentials, in any discipline fields. Candidates must be U.S. citizens, with good communication and analytical skills, and wholesome character traits to pass a routine background investigation for a Secret security clearance. Interns must also sign a mobility agreement, as permanent duty location will be based upon the needs of the Army; interns will not return to

where they are recruited. To apply, call Jose Servida at 438-8650, or e-mail your résumé and a complete undergraduate college transcript or graduate transcript that clearly shows your GPA to servida_jr@shafter.army.mil, or fax items to 438-2690. The application deadline is Sept. 24.

Hale Koa Holds Oktoberfest
Grab your “dirndil” and “lederhosen” and then head to the Hale Koa Hotel for Oktoberfest 2004. Tickets go on sale Monday for the armed forces recreation resort’s annual Oktoberfest, held from Sept. 29 through Oct. 3. This traditional German event celebrates authentic German food, drink, music and dancing. Guests can purchase a wide selection of German beverages and food that include bratwurst and sauerbraten. Admission tickets cost \$6 each, and can be charged by phone at 955-0555, ext. 546.

Bishop Plans Diverse Entertainment
Bishop Museum is chockful of activities to engage youth, teenagers and adults including the following: • *Ongoing:* See “Dr. Hillebrand in Hawaii” on display in the Hawaiian Hall. This exhibit explores the botanist’s contributions to the Kingdom, through April 2005. The Bishop Museum is located at 1525 Bernice St., and is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Military, youth (4 – 12) and senior admission is \$11.95; regular, \$14.95; and kids under 4 and museum members are free.

Local Theatres Celebrate the Arts
If the theater’s the thing for you, catch any one of the following performances: • *Sunday:* At the University of Hawaii’s Orvis Auditorium at 7 p.m., catch George Winston in concert. Proceeds benefit the UH Music Department, scholarships, research and guest artists. Cost is \$40, and guests are encouraged to bring a non-perishable, canned food for donation to the Hawaii Food Bank. • *Dec. 27:* At the Blaisdell Concert Hall, groups may reserve seating for “Grease” starring Frankie Avalon, which will run Dec. 27 – Jan. 2, 2005. Groups of 20 or more will receive a 10-percent discount off tickets ranging from \$44 – \$74. Call 723-7733.

• *Upcoming:* At the Army Community Theater (Richardson Theatre, Fort Shafter), get season tickets for “West Side Story,” “The King and I,” “Miss Saigon,” and “The Secret Garden,” all now available. Call 438-4480 for more details. • At the Honolulu Symphony: Catch the Hawaiian Airlines Pops Series of classical and pop selections from Burt Bacharach to Arturo Sandoval when the season opens today. Tickets are on sale now. Visit www.HonoluluSymphony.com.

Honolulu Theatre for Youth Invites Military Kamaaina
To celebrate 50 years of quality children’s theatre entertainment and drama, the Honolulu Theatre for Youth will present six spectacular shows by esteemed local and national playwrights. Artistic Director Mark Lutwak said the shows offer “some compelling ‘message’ theatre, it boasts a few world premieres, and it’s a line-up that appeals to everyone from teachers to 2-year-olds, to teens and their families.” A military special is available for all active duty, family members and retirees with a valid ID card of buy one ticket, get one of equal or lesser value free. And season tickets are \$16 for adults, \$8 for youth (18 and under) and seniors (over 60). Surf www.htyweb.org for details, or call HTY at 839-9885.

Adults Sought to Help Pregnant Teens
The Mary Jane Program of Catholic Charities Hawaii is seeking safe and caring foster homes to place teenage girls who are unable to stay with their own families during their pregnancy. Currently, there’s demand for licensed “host homes” throughout Oahu. Each teen is carefully screened to ensure that she can commit to following the host home family’s house rules and expectations. Also, the teen is placed under the family’s care at any point of her pregnancy, for up to four months after giving birth. This Mary Jane Program provides continued support for the host family and teenager, in addition to a monthly stipend to the host family. If you would like more information about how you can be a blessing in a pregnant teen’s life by becoming a foster parent, call Pam at 263-2958.

See WTP, B-7

ROBBED, From B-2

going to happen when we got back and could the police help us in any way?

Upon our return we borrowed a friend's phone to contact the bank and cancel any Visa cards that were stolen. After speaking with a bank representative, we were informed there had already been 10 successful transactions on one of the cards before it was cancelled. What a morning this had turned out to be.

So, as you can see, we have been fairly down on our luck lately. But, we won't let that keep us down. We have learned a valuable lesson. Feeding homeless people will not give you good karma. But it will brighten their day. And so we will continue to spread joy wherever we go, keep our spirits high, and get ourselves into unpredictable situations, which hopefully entertain those who get a chance to hear or read about them.

Until next time, remember to always sleep on your vehicles when camping off base and don't try to catch sea turtles with your bare hands; they are far too quick and they bite. Okay, we can't prove that, but beware.

LUAU, From B-4

Katherine Warner, supply clerk for Supply Company, Combat Service Support Group 3. "It was a really good price for what you got out of it and made for a really good part of the weekend."

During the concert, fans were welcome to dance and many had the opportunity to sing with Mr. Vegas on stage during his performance.

"The show was great, I honestly didn't expect it to be as good as it was," said Warner. "Knowing this now, I'll definitely make it a point to come back out here next year."

Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park holds a variety of events throughout the year for its customers and the next big one will be a celebration for Veteran's Day. For more information, visit www.hawaiianwaters.com.

During the off-season, the adventure park is open every day except Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

WTP, From B-6

Military Invited to Reunions & Clubs

•The Marine Corps Mustang Association will hold its annual reunion Sept. 13 – 17 at the Days Inn at the Falls, 443 Main St., Niagara Falls, N.Y. Membership and attendance is open to present, retired and former Marine officers (warrant or commissioned) who served in an enlisted status prior to their appointment in the USMC OR USMCR.

For more details, contact Mr. Bill Max, a retired major, at (800) 321-USMC (8762), or e-mail topmustang@aol.com.

•The Society of Military Widows extends an open invitation to widows and widowers. Meetings go the second Friday at 6 p.m. at The Officers' Club. Call 262-7963 for more information.

•Active, retired and reserve women of the sea services are invited to participate in the local chapter of WAVES, Na Nalu O Hawaii. Meetings are held the second Saturday of each month. Call 623-4735 for more details.

Meditation Center Extends Yoga Offers

Unwind with yoga, Mondays from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m., as yoga is a great, natural way to relieve stress. Learn simple tools to better care for yourself.

Classes cost \$12 (\$40 monthly) and are offered in partnership with Kailua Shambala Meditation Center in the Aikahi Shopping Center (just beyond the back gate of MCB Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, on Mokapu Road).

For more information, contact Charlotte Nuessle at 230-8902, or visit the meditation center's Web site at www.hawaiiyogaandwellness.com.

COMEDY, From B-3

them wanting more by the end of the night. Backing off of the military puns, Irvine made a beeline for the touchy subjects such as immigration and culture. According to members of the audience, his use of personal experience added a zing to the flavor of his act.

“The entire show was a smiley experience, I liked the variety of humor that was performed,” said Master Sgt. Georgia Reyna, the battalion administration chief for 3rd Radio Bn. “Jordan really gave me a shock, he was hilarious. He knew how speak light about the military.”



Above — Bo Irvine, Director of the MCB Hawaii Safety Office, gives a shaka as he jokes about a Hawaiian “brother” he met at the Mexican border.



Top Left, Above — Kevin Jordan got everyone rolling with laughter as he repeatedly found the humor in military lifestyle and rank structure. The audience, from civilians to Lance corporals to colonels, could hardly stop laughing throughout his act at Saturday Comedy Night at the Staff NCO Club.

MARINE MAKEPONO

HAWAIIAN FOR “MARINE BARGAINS”

Automobiles

’95 Jeep Wrangler. Asking \$7,500. Call 780-2046.

’96 Dodge Stratus, 4-door, power windows and locks, A/C, automatic, with minor body damage and approximately 96,300 miles. Asking \$3,000 OBO. Call 254-0893.

’96 GMC Safari, seven-passenger van in great condition. Asking \$6,000. Call 254-7175.

’98 Jeep Cherokee. Asking \$7,000. Call 780-2046.

Motorcycles

’02 Harley Davidson Sportster

883, black, full stock, only 54 miles. Practically new and ready to ride! Asking \$7,800 OBO. Call 384-3643 or 486-0130.

Appliances

Whirlpool hot/cold water bottle dispenser with refrigerator. Asking \$75. Call 262-1296.

Yard Sale

Sept. 17, 18, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 6448B Webb Court, off Cochran St. aboard K-Bay. There’ll be tons of bargains with books, CDs, videos, household items, furniture, clothes, free plants, and more.

Sempertoons

By Staff Sgt. Charles Wolf

"I Can't believe it!!, His head really looks like a KNUCKLE!!"

"Be....What do we call him when he does something blup?"

www.sempertoons.com